

DDA 76-5579

13 NOV 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : John F. Blake  
Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Subjective Probability Assessment Test  
Results

1. When you visited the Information Science Center during your recent tour of the OTR facilities at the Chamber of Commerce Building, you requested that copies of the Subjective Probability Assessment Test reports be forwarded to you. We have now completed tests involving 142 Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) analysts and managers, 54 officers from the Office of Political Research (OPR), and 10 Career Trainees. The detailed reports covering the DIA and OPR results are provided as Attachments 2 and 3.

2. A summary set of cumulative plots of the data for all three groups is provided as Attachment 1. As a whole, the plots indicate that the people who took the tests tend to be overconfident in assessing the accuracy of their subjective judgments. Further, performance appears to be best for the most experienced group and poorest for the relatively inexperienced Career Trainees. As expected, there was considerable variation in the performance of the individuals in each group.

3. Several additional organizations are now interested in taking the test--for example, the immediate staff of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence of the Army--and we will shortly complete a brief training program for a DIA cadre who will administer the test for an additional 550 DIA employees. The next phase of this work will entail training, rather than testing, to improve the subjective probability

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assessment capabilities of the analyst. Questions to be resolved in the training phase include a determination of the frequency of training required to achieve varying degrees of improvement.

~~John F. Blake~~

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Attachments:

- 1 - Summary Data
- 2 - DIA SPAT Report
- 3 - OPR SPAT Report

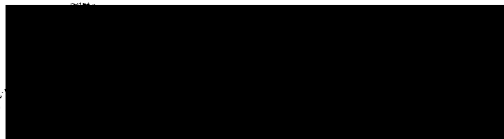
Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - Addressee
- 2 - DDA *Copy to Subject*

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STATINTL

ORIGINATOR:



Harry E. Fitzwater  
Director of Training

9 NOV 1976

Date